

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	Poland	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Mokotow Prison in Warsaw	DATE DISTR.	21 June 1955
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1. The Mokotow Prison, administratively classified as a military prison, is now under the control of the Ministry of the Interior. The prison administration is composed of an Investigations Department and an Administration Department, which includes sections of Political Education, Organization, and Security. Kowalik (fnu) is believed to be the commandant of the prison. A Major Menda is Chief of the Political Education Section.
2. It is not known how many prisoners are held at the prison, but the main building (see sketch) houses about 1,000 inmates. The prison canteen, dispensary, sewing shop, executive chamber, and small cells are located in the basement of this building. Larger cells, which accommodate from 30 to 40 inmates, are on the upper floors.
3. Prisoners at Mokotow rise at 5 a.m. and must be in their cells at 9 p.m. for roll call. There is a washstand on each floor, and the prisoners' clothes are kept on a wooden bench in the corridors during the night. The prisoners are shaved twice a week by the prison barber who is a prison inmate. The diet consists largely of coffee, soup and bread. Meat is served twice a year, on 1 May and 22 July. Twice a month prisoners are allowed, however, to go to the prison canteen where they can purchase 2 kg. of pork, sausages, preserves, butter, milk powder, onions, white bread, honey and apples.
4. Prisoners, with the exception of those held in Pavilions 10, 11, and 12, operate the printing press, work in the tinsmith's shop, the tailor's shop or the kitchen. Two hundred inmates are employed at various jobs in the operation of the printing press and work an eight-hour day.
5. In the first stages of their stay at Mokotow, prisoners are usually kept in one of the basement cells. Prisoners awaiting trial and undergoing investigation are kept on the first, second, and fourth floors of Pavilions 11 and 12, as well as on the first three floors of Pavilion 2 which is especially reserved for purged Party personalities. Criminal offenders and sentenced prisoners are housed in the main building.

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S-E-C-R-E-T

50X1-HUM

-2-

6. Interrogation rooms occupy the third floor of Pavilions 10 and 11, the upper floors of Pavilion 12, and the entire building to the left of Pavilions 10 and 11¹. In order to keep identification of prisoners unknown, guards call names by initial only when summoning for interrogations. Interrogations, excluding those conducted by high-ranking army officers, take place in small, simply furnished rooms. The interrogator sits with his back to the window, the prisoner facing either the light from the window or an electric light. Although uncooperative subjects are still intimidated, the interrogation procedure is, nevertheless, becoming more lenient. Torture and solitary confinement are used principally when alleged members of underground groups refuse to confess. Generally there is only one interrogator for a prisoner, but there is always an additional official from the military prosecutor's office present at the final stages of questioning to draw up a report.
7. There are approximately 200 prison guards and an equal number of interrogators at Mokotow. The interrogators, who wear KBW (Internal Security Corps) uniforms, are not permitted to carry arms within the prison compound for fear of provoking the prisoners.
8. Although political prisoners are kept in complete isolation until sentenced, criminal offenders may receive visitors at all times. One monthly visit for a duration of fifteen minutes may be granted by the head of the prison. Political detainees may not receive mail until their sentence is passed, after which time they may write one letter and receive two per month.
9. Prisoners condemned to death are kept in cells with other prisoners. Executions are effected in the evenings or in the early morning hours. Those tried by military courts are shot, while those sentenced to death by civilian courts are hanged.
10. There is an elaborate informer system in the prison. Recruiting agents approach new prisoners offering a 500-zloty credit in the prison canteen as a reward for their enlistment.
11. The following interrogators are known:
 - a. General Zarakowski, Chief Military Prosecutor
 - b. Colonels Feldman and Ligeza,
 - c. Lieutenant Colonel Dusza, head of the investigations department
 - d. Captains Bydych, Mederer, Piaskowski and Waliczuk
 - e. Lieutenants Foltyniak and Luczak
 - f. Second Lieutenant Fugas

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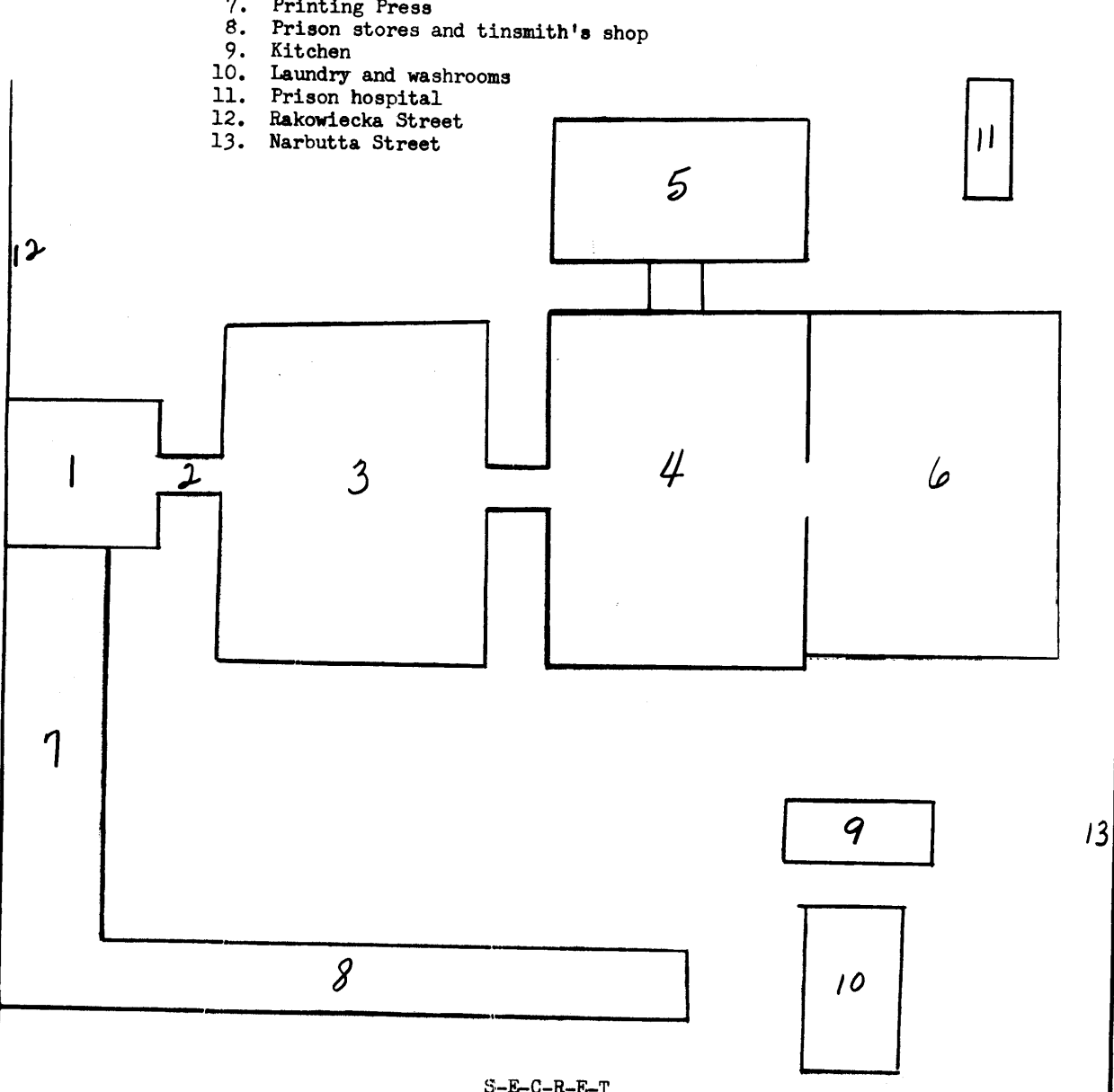
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50X1-HUM

-4-

Mokotow PrisonLegend

1. Courtyard
2. Prison administration offices
3. Main prison building
4. Pavilions 10 and 11
5. Interrogation buildings
6. Pavilion 12
7. Printing Press
8. Prison stores and tinsmith's shop
9. Kitchen
10. Laundry and washrooms
11. Prison hospital
12. Rakowiecka Street
13. Narbutta Street



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50X1-HUM

-3-

13. The following are inmates known to be at Mokotow:

- a. Chowicz (fnu) was sentenced to 10 years for organizing an underground movement.
- b. Ernest (fnu) and Koziolkiewicz (fnu), formerly members of the Military Court of the Home Army (Armja Krajowa) which sentenced many Communists to death, are under death sentences, pending a March 1955 appeal of their case.
- c. Glowacki (fnu), a former public prosecutor, had his life imprisonment sentence commuted to 10 years. 50X1-HUM
- d. Grzanka (fnu), a former judge, was sentenced to life imprisonment. [redacted]
- e. Jozefski (fnu), a prewar minister, [redacted] after many years in hiding, was arrested and sentenced to life imprisonment in 1954.
- f. Bishop Kaczmarek signed a confession after having been broken by his interrogators.
- g. Kowalek (fnu), a priest, [redacted] together with another priest, Stefanski (fnu), was accused of assisting an escape from Poland. They were sentenced to four and six years respectively.
- h. Niziol (fnu), formerly a public prosecutor, is serving life imprisonment. 50X1-HUM
- i. Roset (fnu), a priest, was sentenced to two years for an attempted escape from Poland.
- j. Stemler (fnu), arrested in connection with Bishop Kaczmarek, was recently released for reasons of health.
- k. Ex-Premier Switalski has been imprisoned at Mokotow since 1949.
- l. Generals Tatar² and Kirchmajer², Colonels Godlewski², Jaworski and Pisarczuk were arrested on charges of espionage and were recently released after alleging their arrest to be a provocation of General Skulbaszewski, former chief of military intelligence. 50X1-HUM

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